

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 056007
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02
MCT-01 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /081 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN, JR.:LL
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN, JR.
-----122218Z 014270 /70

R 122013Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS STATE 056007

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: ARAB AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AFTER MEETING WITH
SECRETARY

1. FOLLOWING ARE REMARKS MADE TO PRESS IN THE DEPARTMENT
BY LEBANESE AMBASSADOR NAJATI KABBANI ON BEHALF OF HIS
COLLEAGUES AMBASSADOR ASHRAF GHORBAL OF EGYPT, AMBASSADOR
SABAH KABBANI OF SYRIA, AND AMBASSADOR ABDULLAH SABAH OF
JORDAN AFTER A MEETING WITH SECRETARY VANCE MARCH 12
LASTING ABOUT 50 MINUTES:
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 056007

2. "QUESTION: MR. AMBASSADOR, COULD YOU TELL US -- WERE
YOU PRESENTING A PROTEST, OR WERE YOU ASKING FOR INFORMA-
TION?

ANSWER: CERTAINLY NOT A PROTEST. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAD
ASKED FOR THIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AFTER THE REMARK

BY PRESIDENT CARTER WHEN HE WAS RECEIVING MR. RABIN. AND WE WERE ESPECIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE USE OF THE WORDS "DEFENSIBLE BORDERS." WE WERE GLAD TO HEAR BOTH THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE WHITE HOUSE SAY THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE U.S. POSITION. BUT WE MAINTAINED OUR REQUEST FOR THIS MEETING BECAUSE OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF THE PRESIDENT, WHICH WE CONSIDER AS AN

IMPORTANT AND A NEW DEVELOPMENT IN THE EFFORT OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN ITS SEARCH FOR PEACE. WE MET TODAY WITH THE SECRETARY. OF COURSE WE ASKED FOR SOME EXPLANATION, BUT IT WAS A VERY CORDIAL AND VERY USEFUL MEETING. WE WERE GLAD TO HEAR SOME OF THE EXPLANATIONS THAT MR. VANCE GAVE US ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE. AND IT WAS NOT ONLY ABOUT THAT. WE KNOW THAT THE ADMINISTRATION NOW IS MAKING A NEW EFFORT IN SEARCH FOR PEACE. SOME OF THE ARAB HEADS OF STATE WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AND WE WANTED TO HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE SECRETARY REGARDING THE VARIOUS ISSUES WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED, AND WE HOPE WE'LL BE HELPING IN REACHING A PEACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

QUESTION: WAS THERE ANY CLARIFICATION, MR. AMBASSADOR, ON WHAT MINOR ADJUSTMENTS IN ISRAELI BORDERS MIGHT BE--

ANSWER: WE DID NOT TOUCH ANY DETAIL. WE PREFERRED TO STAY WITHIN THE BROAD LINES OF THE SPIRIT AND CONCEPTION OF THE NEW APPROACH IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 056007

QUESTION: MAY I ASK, MR. AMBASSADOR, IF THE CONCEPT OF SECURITY BORDERS AND POLITICAL BORDERS AS PART OF A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE?

ANSWER: WE PREFERRED TO SPEAK ABOUT MUTUAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS RATHER THAN DEFENSE LINES AND LEGAL BORDERS.

QUESTION: WOULD YOU THINK THE PRESIDENT'S WORDS HAVE HELPED OR HURT IN THIS COMMON SEARCH FOR PEACE?

ANSWER: THEY CERTAINLY DID NOT HURT. THE MORE A SITUATION IS CLEAR, THE BETTER IT CAN BE DEALT WITH.

QUESTION: DID YOU SEE ANY CHANGE AT ALL, MR. AMBASSADOR, IN THE UNITED STATES POSITION ON REACHING AN AGREEMENT?

ANSWER: NO, THE BASIC U.S. POSITION IS THE 242 RESOLUTION, AND NOW ALL THE EFFORTS ARE FOCUSED ON THE PROCESS OF HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, AND HOW TO MAKE IT

A SUCCESSFUL DIALOGUE.

QUESTION: WAS THAT PART OF YOUR DISCUSSION TODAY WITH
SECRETARY VANCE?

ANSWER: IT WAS MORE ON THE PREPARATION OF THE VISITS OF
THE HEADS OF STATE WHO LATER ON WILL BE COMING.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH."
VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOUNDARY DETERMINATION, PRESS CONFERENCES, AMBASSADORS MEETINGS, PEACE PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE056007
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GFSHERMAN, JR.:LL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770086-0550
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770365/aaaacewj.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 618e24b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3124904
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AFTER MEETING WITH SECRETARY
TAGS: PFOR, XF, (KABBANI, NAJATI)
To: AMMAN BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/618e24b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009